

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

U.S. Appln. No.: 09/684,634

Attorney Docket No.: Q58611

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

**This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:**

### **LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (canceled).

2. (currently amended): A method for producing an information-recording medium comprising, on a substrate, a recording layer capable of recording information, said method comprising the steps of:

drying said recording layer by rotating said substrate at a high speed, and

allowing clean air to flow toward said recording layer formed on said substrate, through a lid having an opening at least at a central portion and then through an intake,

wherein said intake is narrowed by putting said lid having an opening at least at a central portion, on said intake,

whereby the lid allows clean air to flow toward the entire surface of the recording layer substantially uniformly to allow the recording layer to be dried uniformly and produce a uniform thickness for the recording layer.

3. (cancelled).

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4. (previously presented): The method for producing said information-recording medium according to claim 2, wherein said opening is formed to have a wedge-shaped configuration.

5. (previously presented): The method for producing said information-recording medium according to claim 2, wherein said opening is formed to have a substantially rhombic configuration.

6. (previously presented): The method for producing said information-recording medium according to claim 2, wherein said lid has a first opening which has a large diameter disposed at a central portion, and it has a plurality of second openings which have diameters gradually decreased for those disposed in a direction toward an outer circumference in which a central angle resides in a spacing distance of not less than  $10^{\circ}$ .

7. (previously presented): The method for producing said information-recording medium according to claim 2, wherein said lid is formed to have a substantially conical configuration which has a diameter continuously decreased downwardly, and it has an opening at a central portion.

8. (previously presented): The method for producing said information-recording medium according to claim 2, wherein said lid has an opening at a central portion, and it has a plurality of

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fins which are formed at a lower surface in which a central angle resides in a spacing distance of not less than 10°.

9-11. (canceled).